



LOCAL YOUTH XPERTS

SCHOOL

02 DECISION-MAKERS GO OUT TO MEET CHILDREN

Purpose of the tool

The purpose is to help shorten the distance between children and decision-makers with power. Children and young people under 18 do not have the right to vote. decision-makers are obliged under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child to collect answers from selections of children concerned when they are making decisions that affect them. This tool helps them achieve that. With this tool, they will most often not be able to obtain representative answers, but they will be able to hear some children's and young people's views on topics that matter.

Who can use it

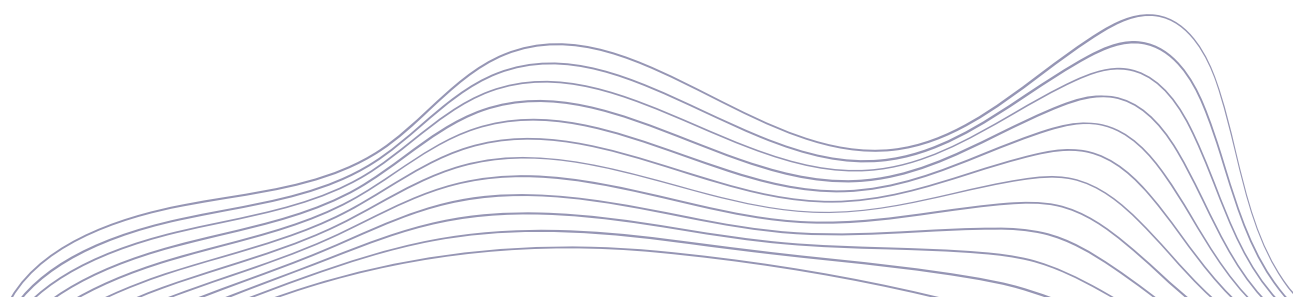
Decision-makers in the municipal council, the executive committee, the heads of childhood and youth services board, and their advisors

What the tool can be used for

- Decision-makers travel out to places where children and young people under 18 are. Where they go depends on which groups of children they need answers from
- Children and young people under 18 are invited to contribute advice and ideas for creating the best possible municipality for those who will live in the municipality in the future

Which children and young people can take part

All



USER GUIDE

Places decision-makers can go out to:

- Schools or kindergartens
- Leisure activities run by volunteers
- McDonald's, Burger King, or other cafés/eating places
- Events for children and young people in the municipality
- Youth clubs and low-threshold houses
- Bus and train stations, or other open meeting places

Why the decision-makers are doing this

- Specific themes or connected to specific matters
- To listen, understand, and learn from the children and young people they meet

Examples of themes decision-makers can ask about

- Services the municipality needs in addition to what clubs and organisations provide
- What decision-makers or others can do so that more young people get involved
- Which climate and environmental measures the municipality should prioritise
- What schools in the municipality can do to improve learning
- What schools in the municipality can do to improve well-being
- What schools can do so that fewer young people in the municipality abuse drugs
- What can be available in the municipality so that fewer young people struggle with mental health
- Which changes are needed in the School Health Service
- How the school rules should be
- How bullying can be prevented
- Priorities regarding housing development, business development, and road construction

How invitations can be made

- Send out information in advance to the children and young people at the place where the decision-makers will go. This can be done through posters, verbal information via leaders, the schools' digital platforms, or a film from the decision-makers explaining why they are coming

How decision-makers can go out

- In small groups, to visit places where young people are
- It may be the mayor, decision-makers in the executive committee, and/or the heads of childhood and youth services board
- Agreements can be made to visit the place regularly over a period

How the advice can be collected

- Before they go out, they receive a short training session from young people with tips on what the decision-makers can do to make it as safe as possible for children and young people to talk with them
- They decide whether they will prioritise collecting answers from different ages, different parts of the municipality, or other important factors related to the theme

How to carry out the collection

- Start with one or more energisers, something to get to know each other a little
- Give information about why they are coming and what the answers will be used for
- Invite children and young people to respond through conversation (possibly in groups if several decision-makers go out) or through simple tasks, activity stations, Kahoot/other digital solutions

The decision-makers' responsibility after they have received advice and ideas:

- Leave information about how the children or young people can get in touch if they have more to contribute or are wondering about something
- Publish on social media information about how the advice from the young people has been included in the process

